



"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS. NEUTRAL IN NONE."

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NUMBER 285.

VICTORY IS NOW IN THE AIR.

Democracy and Independent Citizenship Are Marching Hand and Hand to Elect Wenter.

The Dark Clouds Have Cleared Away from Before the Party of the People,

And It Again Sees Its Way to an Old-Fashioned and Rousing Victory.

Politicians Will Be Surprised on Election Day to Discover How Wenter Will Run.

Full Lists of All Town and Aldermanic Candidates Now in the Field.

Frank Wenter will be the next Mayor of Chicago.

The people are with him.

On every side signs of the approaching victory are to be discerned.

The skulkers who are now in the rear of the Democratic lines will be obliged to keep there if they do not hurry to catch up with the procession. Mr. Wenter's record as a business man.

His record as an official.

His record in private life.

Win him friends daily among all classes of people.

He will certainly be the people's Mayor when elected.

Mr. Wenter opened his campaign on Saturday night at a great meeting at the Second Regiment armory. After some preliminary remarks he continued:

"Citizens of all classes demand that the administration of city affairs shall be put upon a business basis. It is only as a business man, who believes in carrying business methods into the transaction of all public affairs, that I have become a candidate for Mayor of this city. Whether I am the right man for the place is for you and my fellow-citizens to say. (Prolonged applause.)"

"Upon the question of interest to you as to what sort of administration of public affairs shall prevail for the next two years, I wish to say a few words, and I will endeavor to be brief. There is no denying the fact that the spirit of reform is in the air. (Applause.) There is a demand for the reorganization of the civil service of large cities; that the merit system should control in the selection and retention of men in the administrative offices of our city. (Applause.) This demand is recognized in the platforms of both parties in this campaign. But the kind of reform which the people want is not one upon paper. They want it genuine. (Cheers.) They do not care so much for an examination into the fitness of an applicant for a position which shall determine whether he has dotted all the i's and crossed all the t's on his examination paper as for one which shall determine in a practical manner whether he is intelligent and capable; whether he has had experience in the line of work sought, and whether he is honest and faithful."

"In deciding whether those platforms are genuine expressions of the views of the candidates running upon them you must look to the men themselves. It is for you and the people of this city to determine which is the more honest declaration of principles. It is for the people to say what candidate or candidates are least hampered by previous affiliations. It is for them to inquire in what school of politics the candidate was brought up, and whether, if elected, there will be an honest application of the principles so warmly advocated in those platforms. (Applause.)"

"I have no fault to find with the personal private character of George B. Swift, the Republican candidate for Mayor. But I ask you whether a man trained in the school of politics in which he has been brought up has any interest in genuine reform further than as a glittering generality, useful in making a campaign, but to be carefully locked up and put upon the shelf when it comes

to dealing with affairs in a practical manner after a successful election? (Cheers and cries of "No.")

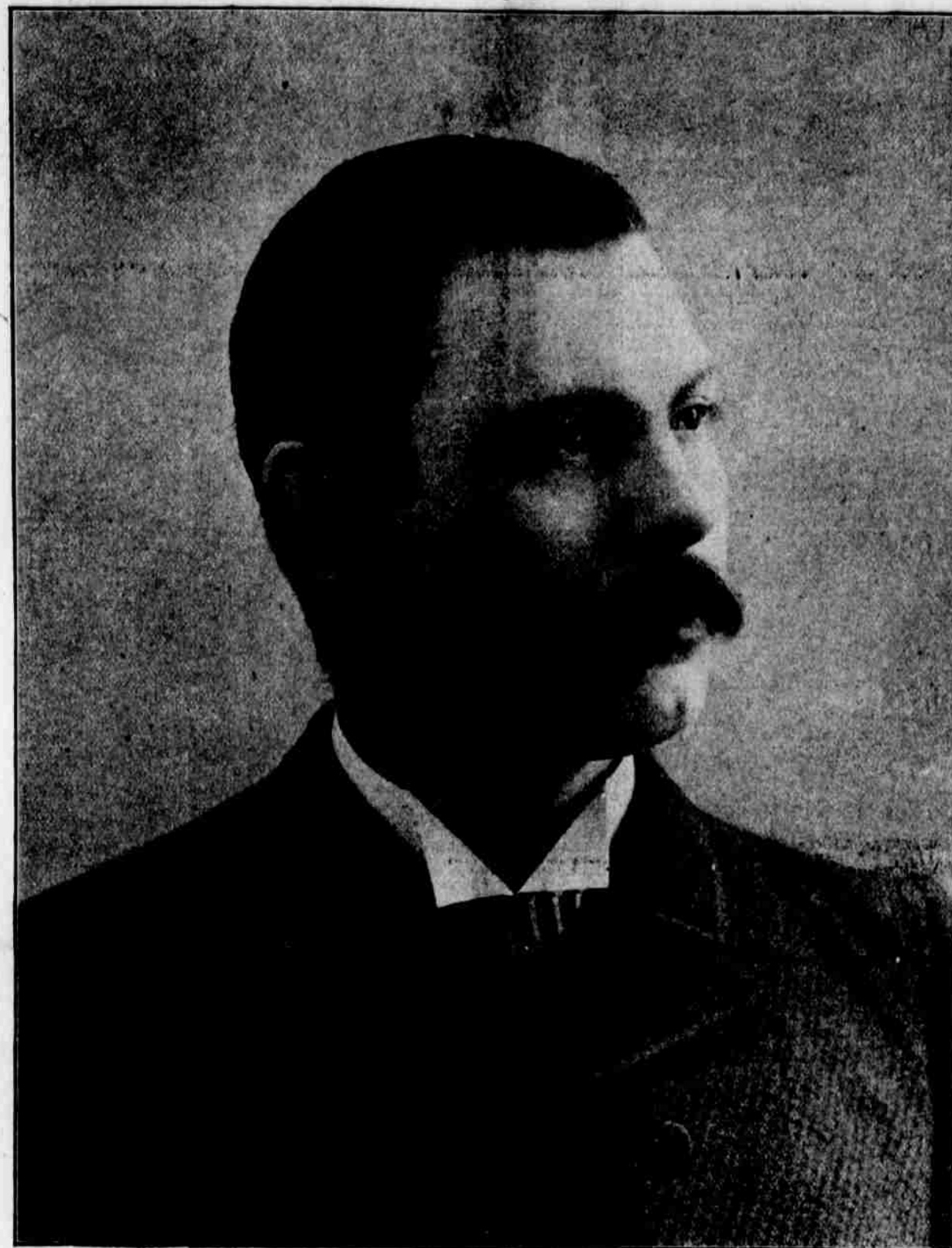
"I ask you to review his record as a boss in the Eleventh Ward of this city, as an Alderman in the City Council, as Commissioner of Public Works, and as the power behind the throne when a very estimable gentleman was occupying it and endeavoring to put his business knowledge to some use in the conduct of city affairs. Who was responsible in the eyes of the people for the failure of that administration? (Cries of "Swift.") Is it possible that a man with such a political record—a record which may be resurrected from the organs of his own party—can now come forward carrying a banner with the legend 'I am for reform,' and that the good people will believe it will close the ears of their understanding and accept him as the Messiah of the new era of reform in civil service and of the introduction of the merit system in the administration of city business? (Prolonged cheering.)"

"And now, gentlemen, this seems a fitting place and an opportune time, at the opening of this campaign, which is going to put the candidates and their professions of faith through the fiery furnace of public criticism, to speak plainly upon my own position before the people as a candidate for this office. I want to say to you and to the people of this city that I go into this campaign positively unpledged and with no promises to redeem. (Applause.) I have received the nomination as the unanimous choice of the convention, as one made in good faith, with the expectation that, if elected, I shall, without fear or favor, endeavor to carry on public affairs as a private person or corporation would carry on his or its own. (Prolonged cheering.)"

"The administration of the affairs of the city by the present occupant of the Mayor's chair speaks for itself. (Applause.) I can have no share in whatever of favorable or adverse criticism may be made of it. I fully endorse the efforts made and achieved as to track elevation. (Prolonged applause.)"

"I recognize that parties must have organizations. In order that the efforts of many may be united in the accomplishment of any purpose there must be system—a definite plan of action. So it is with political parties. An organization must be perfected upon some method calculated to give expression to the wishes of the party, but organizations are the means, not the end. They are the organs by which parties endeavor to accomplish certain ends. They must be the creature of the party and not attempt to control the party itself. (Applause.)"

"The Democratic platform adopted one



HON. FRANK WENTER.
The Next Mayor of Chicago.

week ago takes a strong position on the question of track elevation, a position which cannot but meet the approval of all good citizens irrespective of party. (Applause.) It is equally outspoken on the matter of public franchises. Any franchise conferring the power to carry on a business which is in the nature of a monopoly should not be granted without provisions securing an adequate compensation therefore to the people. (Deafening applause.)"

"The streets of a great city are the avenues through means of which business is transacted. In spite of vigorous protests from the people little of the care and attention which they need in order that they may best subserve this purpose are given. Faithful work on the part of able-bodied men, under the supervision of an experienced administrative officer, should be required in order that not alone the avenues and the business centers, but that the streets and alleys in all quarters of the city may be kept in proper condition. (Applause.) What we need is honest work. The people pay the wages of the public employees, and they are entitled to the fair and honest work which the money thus paid should command. (Applause.) And on the other hand, if this kind of service is given, the employee is entitled to his wages without delay or diminution. He should be paid promptly and at regular intervals. (Prolonged applause.)"

"Much has been said at times when elections are held of the use of the police force by the party in power to influence voters, or by failure to see attempts at violence and intimidation. Such charges in times past have been made by each party against the other. I have no hesitation in saying that any such attempts, by whatever party made, must meet with the strongest condemnation from every right thinking man. (Deafening applause.) The placing of the police force under civil service rules is an assurance that no such attempts can be made in the future, whatever party may be in power. (Prolonged applause.)"

"And now, gentlemen, I wish to say in conclusion that our elections come too frequently. (Applause.) The term of two years for the Mayor of a great city is not long enough for any well-considered policy to be carried to a completion. The term should be made four years, and, if thought desirable, the occupant should be ineligible for another consecutive term. (Applause.) I will heartily join with the candidate for Mayor of the Republican party in

endeavoring to secure the passage by our Legislature of a bill making the term four years. (Applause.)"

"But I must not now further claim your attention. There are many good speakers yet to hear from. I wish only to urge upon you the necessity of getting a full expression of the will of the people at the coming election. Let every Democrat and every good citizen vote. (Applause.) It is not an election where strict party lines should be drawn. Vote for the men who in your opinion are most likely to give this city a good, honest, business administration (applause), who will introduce the merit system into all the departments of the city's service, who will demand honest work for the money of the people, who will be as thrifty and economical in the business of the public as they are accustomed to be in their private business. Gentlemen, I thank you."

The popular candidate for Mayor was born of German parents, says a writer in the Times-Herald.

He was only 13 when he landed in America. He came direct to Chicago, and went to work in a furniture factory. He worked all day for \$3.00 a week, and at night when other boys would have loafed or gone to places of amusement this boy went to night school.

He learned to make sashes, doors and blinds, and when he was 19 he was earning \$17.50 a week, and had saved \$300.

Then he looked about for a chance to become his own master, and found it. He was offered a carved-bracket business, and the price amounted to the very sum he had saved.

So he bought the business, this boy of 19, and straightway started out to increase it. In a few weeks he was employing from twelve to fifteen men, all old enough to be his father.

His business increased extensively. He found a ready sale for his brackets all over the Northwest, so that in three years' time he was forced to leave his first place and rent a larger one.

Again and again the growing business forced him to seek larger quarters, until at last, in less than nine years from the day he started, he bought some land and erected his own factory at 14 Canal street, where it is still located.

The entire place cost over \$55,000. Of course the bracket craze died out, and then Mr. Wenter gradually drifted into the furniture line, so that he still has a large and paying business. The year he came of age he married,

and as time went on he built a house as well as a factory. His home is on the fashionable and pretty Ashland boulevard, south of Taylor street. He is today worth between \$60,000 and \$80,000.

"My success is not due to accident or luck," Mr. Wenter said to me. "It is due to hard work and perseverance. I don't know to what I owe my success in public life. May be it is my executive ability, and I may say, without seeming vain, that I have good executive ability. Or it may be that I owe my success to the fact that people know I never betrayed a trust, and that I always do my duty fearlessly."

"I don't like to be conspicuous in a crowd, and in many ways I am a modest man, but when I am aroused I get up and forget everything except that, if it is in my power, I mean only the right thing to be done. I am a good judge of human nature, and I don't make friends quickly, but I always keep them. And of one thing I am sure, I always command the respect of my friends."

Carter Harrison was my friend," he said, warmly, "and I was his great admirer. With all his faults, he was a great and good man. When he was killed I never thought the Democrats would look to me to fill the office he held. I spoke for him, supported and defended his cause, but I never thought then I would some time be a candidate for Mayor myself."

"Carter Harrison appointed me to the School Board. That was thirteen years ago. I was somewhat of an athlete at that time, and was the first to have a resolution passed to introduce calisthenics in school. I did not think it was a good thing for children to sit quietly all day without exercise. My idea was opposed in the beginning, but later it was adopted."

"I was also instrumental in having additional school buildings put up. I did not believe it was right to have such crowded schools, and to have double divisions, giving a child only half a day at school. I worked hard in my endeavor to have new schools to relieve the overcrowding, and I succeeded pretty well, though I think we still need more school buildings."

"In 1880 I was elected as a trustee of the sanitary drainage channel, and I consider it the pride and glory of my life. In fact, I consider the most important moment of my life that in which, on the 3d of September, 1892, in the presence of the State, Federal, county and city authorities, I lifted the first shovelful of earth that marked the beginning of the work upon the channel."

GREAT RISING FOR WENTER.

All Indications Point to a Landslide for the Able Democratic Nominee for Mayor.

His Opening Meeting and Initial Speech a Great and Taking Success in Every Way.

The Business Men and Quiet Citizens Who Seldom Mix in Politics for Him,

While His Clear-Cut Ideas on All Local Subjects Greatly Please All the Tax-payers.

No Longer Any Doubt of His Triumphant Election to the Mayoralty of Chicago.

E. S. Dreyer, the well-known banker, has announced his acceptance of the nomination of Lake View Assessor, and thus proves, as his friends say, that there is one genuine reformer in Chicago. The other night Mr. Dreyer sent the following letter to the Lake View committee:

Otto D. Swearingen, Chairman, and gentlemen of the committee:

In accepting the nomination for the important office of Assessor for the Town of Lake View, which you were delegated to inform me was tendered to me by acclamation at the Democratic convention of the 14th inst., I desire to say that, although the nomination was made without my knowledge or consent, and although my business at this season of the year demands all of my attention and will doubtless suffer much from the absence enforced by the duties of such an office, I feel it my duty as a citizen of Lake View, who has resided and done business in this community for the past twenty-five years and experienced the benefits of its advancement and its institutions, to accept the nomination.

There are many good and reasonable objections of a personal nature why I should reject the nomination, and if these have been overcome by the convincing arguments of my friends of every class and condition regardless of politics, who have urged its acceptance, I trust that the personal sacrifice I make in accepting will be fully appreciated by our electors, both before and after the elections, and in return I promise, if elected, to exert every energy toward the arrangement of a just and fair, and, at any rate, an honest assessment for the taxpayers of our town, and I shall endeavor to conduct the affairs of the office as I would my own business, and, although a Democrat, I believe that partisanship should no more enter into the proper management of the office of Assessor than into the affairs of a business firm. With this as my platform I am willing to leave the result in the hands of my fellow-citizens of Lake View. Thanking you and the gentlemen of the convention for the compliment expressed by my nomination, and assuring you of my earnest support of our ticket, I am, yours very truly,

E. S. DREYER.
Mr. Dreyer's friends say that he will wipe out the 4,000 Republican majority in Lake View.

Every West Side citizen should vote for James McAndrews for Assessor if he wants an honest assessment.

The following Aldermanic nominations have been made in the various wards:

First Ward—Francis P. Gleason, Rep.; Michael Kenna, Dem.; William H. Bond, Dem.; N. A. Cremer, Ind. Dem.
Second Ward—Martin Best, Rep.; Harry Evans, Dem.; Thomas J. O'Hern, Dem.; Kirk Hawes, Ind. Rep.
Third Ward—Noble B. Judah, Rep.; W. E. Paulson, Ind. Dem.
Fourth Ward—Martin B. Madden, Rep.; Francis W. Walker, Dem.; Harry De Young, Rep.
Fifth Ward—W. J. Doerr, Rep.; Patrick J. Wall, Dem.; James Lawler, Rep.; Alfred Johnson, Ind.

Sixth Ward—Martin J. Kelly, Rep.; Henry Stuckart, Dem.; Rudolph A. Rahm, Rep.; Thomas Reed, Ind. Dem.
Seventh Ward—Edward Haas, Rep.; W. J. O'Neil, Dem.; Bernard Schram, Ind. Rep.; A. P. Kadison, Rep.; Moses Barnett, Ind.

Eighth Ward—W. H. Curran, Rep.; John P. Bennett, Dem.; W. J. Cody, Rep.; John McAndrews, Ind.; Paul Statinsky, Ind.

Ninth Ward—Joseph E. Bidwill, Rep.; E. F. Colleton, Dem.; W. B. Keledzinski, Rep.

Tenth Ward—Z. R. Carter, Rep.; Charles C. Schumacher, Dem.; John P. Matuska, Rep.

Eleventh Ward—Charles E. Hamblin, Rep.; J. W. Lester, Rep.

Twelfth Ward—J. L. Campbell, Rep.; Robert E. Cantwell, Dem.; J. H. Green, Rep.; James A. Patton, Ind. Rep.

Thirteenth Ward—Charles F. Holmen, Rep.; Salo W. Roth, Dem.; D. P. Kivlin, Rep.

Fourteenth Ward—George A. Mugler, Rep.; Philip Jackson, Dem.; Olaus O. Kralob, Rep.

Fifteenth Ward—Joseph F. Haas, Rep.; Victor Paraski, Dem.; Elmer E. Cook, Rep.

Sixteenth Ward—George C. Lenke, Rep.; Stanley H. Kunz, Dem.; A. O. Froebe, Rep.; Matthew G. Cunley, Ind.

Seventeenth Ward—Stephen Revere, Rep.; Stephen M. Gosselin, Ind.; Julius Juulsen, Rep.; Thomas Johnson, Ind.

Eighteenth Ward—John A. Rogers, Rep.; John J. Brennan, Dem.; William Roberts, Rep.

Nineteenth Ward—Samuel H. Sinsheimer, Rep.; John D. Pickham, Rep.; Thomas Gallagher, Dem.; Adolph B. Lok, Rep.; Frank Lawler, Ind.

Twentieth Ward—John H. Hartwick, Rep.; Daniel Long, Dem.; Jonathan B. Taylor, Rep.; J. W. McLean, Ind.; Charles Haussner, Ind.

Twenty-first Ward—Frederick H. Hoyer, Rep.; John McGillen, Dem.; Bruno Koerner, Rep.; Frank Meine, Ind. Rep.

Twenty-second Ward—William Baumer, Rep.; Adolphus W. Maltby, Dem.; Frederick C. Lange, Rep.; Otto Reese, Ind. Rep.; M. D. Huguenin, Ind. Rep.

Twenty-third Ward—John Weisbrod, Rep.; James J. Lyons, Dem.; Charles A. DeLang, Rep.; W. B. Watson, Ind.

Twenty-fourth Ward—Z. C. Peck, Rep.; John P. Agnew, Dem.; David E. Rose, Rep.; William R. Manierre, Ind. Rep.; Fred Grishelmer, Ind. Dem.

Twenty-fifth Ward—George B. Milne, Rep.; Carl W. Weise, Dem.; Carl S. Hallberg, Rep.

Twenty-sixth Ward—William Finkler, Rep.; Charles J. Flick, Dem.; Herman Alschuler, Rep.

Twenty-seventh Ward—M. J. Conway, Rep.; George S. Foster, Dem.

Twenty-eighth Ward—William Barclay, Rep.; Thomas Sayle, Rep.; T. J. Ryan, Dem.; E. B. Williams, Rep.

Twenty-ninth Ward—James J. McCarthy, Rep.; Thomas Carey, Dem.; Meinhardt E. Kleininger, Rep.; David Ayers, Ind.

Thirtieth Ward—John W. Utesch, Rep.; Hiram A. Wilson, Rep.; Michael F. Mullens, Ind. Rep.

Thirty-first Ward—T. T. Greenacre, Rep.; John S. Kirkpatrick, Rep.

Thirty-second Ward—William Kent,

(Continued on fourth page.)